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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
Form 19b-4

File No. * SR 2023 - * 041

Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)

Filing by The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Initial * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amendment * <input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(A) * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(B) * <input type="checkbox"/>
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Pilot <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Expires * <input type="text"/>
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Rule

<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(4)
<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(5)
<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(6)

Submit with link to Prefiling or Request for Waiver option

Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010
Section 806(e)(1) *

Section 806(e)(2) *

Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
Section 3C(b)(2) *

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document

Description

Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).

A proposal to establish Purge Ports for equities trading.

Contact Information

Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.

First Name * Brett Last Name * Kitt

Title * AVP, Principal Associate General Counsel

E-mail * brett.kitt@nasdaq.com

Telephone * (301) 978-8132 Fax

Signature

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange of 1934, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date 10/10/2023


(Title *)

By John Zecca

EVP and Chief Legal Officer

(Name *)

NOTE: Clicking the signature block at right will initiate digitally signing the form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.

 Date: 2023.10.10 14:39:05 -04'00'

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and astericks.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.

Form 19b-4 Information *

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SR-NASDAQ-2023-041 19b-4.doc

The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.

Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change *

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SR-NASDAQ-2023-041 Exhibit 1.doc

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

Exhibit 1A - Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advanced Notice by Clearing Agencies *

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The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

Exhibit 2- Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

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Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

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Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change.

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies

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The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.

Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text

Add Remove View

SR-NASDAQ-2023-041 Exhibit 5.doc

The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change

Partial Amendment

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If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq” or “Exchange”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) a proposal to establish Purge Ports for equities trading, as described below.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register is attached as Exhibit 1. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by the Board of Directors (the “Board”). Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Brett Kitt
Principal Associate General Counsel
Nasdaq, Inc.
301-978-8132

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

3. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

a. Purpose

The Exchange is proposing to establish a new port type, “Purge Port,” which is a function enabling Exchange Participants (the “Participants”) to cancel all open orders or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) across multiple protocols through a single cancel message.³ The Exchange also proposes to amend the Pricing Schedule in Equity 7, Section 3 to set fees for Purge Ports and to waive the fees for the Purge Ports in the Exchange’s Test Facility for the first two months a Participant uses them in the Test Facility. Finally, the Exchange proposes to make functional enhancements to its Order entry protocols to include a function enabling Participants to cancel, through a single cancel message, all open orders or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) entered through that port (the “purging functionality”). The Exchange notes that its sister exchange, Nasdaq PHLX, LLC, recently filed with the SEC a proposal to adopt similar functionality and pricing.⁴

A logical port represents a port established by the Exchange within the Exchange’s system for trading and billing purposes. Each logical port grants a Participant the ability to accomplish a specific function, such as order entry, order cancellation, access to execution reports, and other administrative information.

³ Purge Ports will be available for RASH, FIX and OUCH protocols.

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-97825 (June 30, 2023); 88 FR 43405 (July 7, 2023) (SR-Phlx-2023-28).

The proposed Purge Ports are designed to assist Participants, including Market Makers,⁵ in the management of, and risk control over, their orders, particularly if the firm is dealing with a large number of securities. For example, if a Participant detects market indications that may influence the execution potential of their orders, the Participant may use the proposed Purge Ports to reduce uncertainty and to manage risk by purging all orders in a number of securities. This would allow the Participant to seamlessly avoid unintended executions, while continuing to evaluate the market, their positions, and their risk levels. While Purge Ports will be available to all Participants, the Exchange anticipates they will be used primarily by firms that conduct business activity that exposes them to a large amount of risk across a number of securities. The proposed purging functionality will operate similar to a Purge Port, by allowing a Participant to purge all orders or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) open on that port. The only material difference for a Participant, between relying on the purging functionality as opposed to using a Purge Port, is that Purge Port requires a Participant to send one message to accomplish desired cancellation of orders or a subset thereof as described above, while the purging functionality requires a Participant to send multiple messages (which could be sent simultaneously) to accomplish the same task.⁶

⁵ Members seeking to become registered as an Exchange Market Maker must comply with the applicable requirements of General 3, Section 1. See Equity 2, Section 4.

⁶ The Exchange expects the purging functionality to remain substantially similar to Purge Ports, as described above, and would offer the purging functionality as long as it offers Purge Ports.

Participants may currently cancel individual orders through the existing functionality of the RASH Order entry protocol,⁷ FIX Order entry protocol⁸ and the OUCH Order entry protocol.⁹ In addition to the current functionality, which is being retained, the Exchange now proposes to expand the ability of Participants to cancel orders through the new purge functionality, which would enable them to cancel all open orders or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) entered through a single port; and through the proposed Purge Ports, which would enable them to cancel all open orders, or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) across multiple protocols through a single cancel message.

The Exchange notes that dedicated Purge Ports are not a new functionality for equities exchanges; Nasdaq PHLX, LLC and other equity exchanges already offer similar functionality.¹⁰ The Exchange also notes that the proposed Purge Ports increase efficiency of already existing functionality enabling the cancellation of orders. Nasdaq operates highly performant systems with significant throughput and determinism which allows participants to enter, update and cancel orders at high rates. In that regard,

⁷ The RASH Order entry protocol is a proprietary protocol that allows members to enter Orders, cancel existing Orders and receive executions. RASH allows participants to use advanced functionality, including discretion, random reserve, pegging and routing.

⁸ Financial Information eXchange (FIX) is a vendor-neutral standard message protocol that defines an electronic message exchange for communicating securities transactions between two parties.

⁹ The OUCH Order entry protocol is a proprietary protocol that allows subscribers to quickly enter orders into the System and receive executions. OUCH accepts limit Orders from members, and if there are matching Orders, they will execute. Non-matching Orders are added to the Limit Order Book, a database of available limit Orders, where they are matched in price-time priority. OUCH only provides a method for members to send Orders and receive status updates on those Orders.

¹⁰ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 84405 (October 11, 2018), 83 FR 52598 (October 17, 2018)(SR-CboeEDGA-2018-016). Explaining its decision to waive the 30-day operative delay of this proposed rule change, the Commission stated that it believed that purge ports may be a helpful tool for managing the risk associated with trading equities, and that this can be important both for individual market participants and the market in general.

Participants can cancel orders in rapid succession across their order entry ports.¹¹ In addition, the Exchange provides a similar ability to mass cancel orders through the Nasdaq Kill Switch, which is an optional tool offered at no charge that enables Participants to establish pre-determined levels of risk exposure, which can be used to cancel all open orders. Similarly, Participants may use cancel-on-disconnect control when they experience a disruption in connection to the Exchange to immediately cancel all pending Exchange orders except for good-till-canceled orders. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the purge functionality and Purge Ports provide an efficient option as an alternative to already available services and enhance the Participant's ability to manage their risk.

The Exchange proposes to provide the purging functionality without charging any additional fees. All existing ports will be enhanced with the purging functionality and will continue to be subject to the existing fee schedule without any changes.

The Exchange proposes to adopt a fee for Purge Ports of \$500 per port/per month. As stated above, the Exchange believes that Participants would benefit from a dedicated purge mechanism. Only firms that request Purge Ports would be subject to the proposed fees, and other firms can continue to operate in exactly the same manner as they do today without dedicated Purge Ports, but with the additional purging functionality.

The Exchange proposes to waive the applicable \$300 per Purge Port, per month fees for Participants that use their Exchange access protocols connection through the Exchange's Testing Facility to test the new Purge Ports. The fees will be waived for the first two calendar months from the date the participant first receives access to Purge Ports

¹¹ Current Exchange port functionality supports cancellation rates that exceed one thousand messages per second and the Exchange's research indicates that certain Participants rely on such functionality and at times utilize such cancellation rates.

in the Test Facility. A Participant may choose to conduct testing for OUCH, FIX and RASH protocols simultaneously or at different times. If a Participant chooses to conduct tests for their protocols separately, the fees will be waived each time.

After the two months of service, a Participant will be expected to have fully tested the new Purge Ports and will be charged for any fees incurred for using the Exchange's Testing Facility ports thereafter.

Implementation

The Exchange will issue an Equity Trader Alert to members announcing the exact date the Exchange will implement the Purge Ports and the purging functionality, as described above.

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,¹² in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹³ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. The proposal is also designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would promote just and equitable principles of trade and remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market because offering Participants a new optional service promotes

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

choice, flexibility, efficiency, and competition. The Exchange believes the new features may enhance participants' ability to manage orders, which would, in turn, improve their risk controls to the benefit of all market participants. The Exchange believes that the purging functionality and the Purge Ports would foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities because designating Purge Ports for purge messages may encourage better use of such ports. This may, concurrent with the ports that carry quote and other information necessary for market making activities, enable more efficient, as well as fair and reasonable, use of Market Makers' resources. Although dedicated Purge Ports are a new functionality for the Exchange,¹⁴ similar connectivity and functionality is offered by options exchanges, including the Exchange's own affiliated equities and options exchanges, and other equities exchanges.¹⁵ The Exchange believes that proper risk management, including the ability to efficiently cancel multiple orders quickly when necessary, is similarly valuable to firms that trade in the equities market, including Market Makers that have heightened quoting obligations that are not applicable to other market participants.

The proposed rule change will not relieve Market Makers of their quoting obligations or firm quote obligations under Regulation NMS Rule 602.¹⁶ Specifically, any interest that is executable against a Participant's or Market Maker's quotes and orders that is received by the Exchange prior to the time of the removal of orders request

¹⁴ See footnote 6, above.

¹⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 77613 (April 13, 2016), 81 FR 23023 (April 19, 2016). See also Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 79956 (February 3, 2017), 82 FR 10102 (February 9, 2017) (SR-BatsBZX-2017-05); 79957 (February 3, 2017), 82 FR 10070 (February 9, 2017) (SR-BatsEDGX-2017-07); 83201 (May 9, 2018), 83 FR 22546 (May 15, 2018) (SR-C2-2018-006).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 242.602.

will automatically execute. Market Makers that purge their orders will not be relieved of the obligation to provide continuous two-sided quotes on a daily basis, nor will it prohibit the Exchange from taking disciplinary action against a Market Maker for failing to meet their continuous quoting obligation each trading day.¹⁷

Dedicated Purge Ports, which were originally introduced for options trading, subsequently became a feature in the equities market. The Exchange, therefore, is not the first equities exchange to offer this functionality to Participants and to charge associated fees.¹⁸

The Exchange believes the proposed fee for Purge Ports is reasonable. The Exchange currently charges \$400 per port/per month for logical ports. The Exchange believes it is reasonable to charge \$500 per month for the proposed Purge Ports, which is \$100 more than the fee for a logical port, as such ports represent targeted enhancement of technology and were specially developed to allow for the sending of a single message to cancel multiple orders, thereby assisting firms in effectively managing risk. Nasdaq also believes that a Participant that chooses to utilize a Purge Port may, in the future, reduce their need for additional logical ports by consolidating cancel messages to the Purge Port and thus freeing up some capacity of the existing logical ports and, therefore, allowing for increased message traffic without paying for additional logical ports. In addition, the proposed purging functionality will allow Participants to achieve essentially the same outcome without paying for a dedicated Purge Port. Purge Ports provide the ability to cancel multiple orders across multiple ports with less messaging from the firms using the

¹⁷ See Equity 2, Section 5.

¹⁸ Cboe charges \$650 per port/per month for Purge Ports that have substantially similar functionality. This fee is also \$100 more than the fee for a logical port on its exchange. See, Cboe EDGA U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedule.

ports and therefore may create efficiencies for firms and provide a more economical solution to their risk management needs. In addition, Purge Port requests may cancel orders submitted over numerous ports and contain added functionality to purge only a subset of these orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol).

Effective risk management is important both for individual market participants that choose to utilize risk features provided by the Exchange, as well as for the market in general. As a result, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate to charge fees for such functionality as doing so aids in the maintenance of a fair and orderly market.

The Exchange also believes that its ability to set fees for Purge Ports is subject to significant substitution-based forces because Participants are able to rely on currently available services both free and those they receive when using existing trading protocols, which will include the proposed purging functionality. If the value of the efficiency introduced through the Purge Port functionality is not worth the proposed fees, Participants will simply continue to rely on the existing functionality and the proposed purging functionality and not pay for Purge Ports. In that regard, Participants already can cancel orders individually and by utilizing Nasdaq protocols that allow them to develop proprietary systems that can send cancel messages at a high rate.¹⁹ In addition, the Exchange already provides similar ability to mass cancel orders through the Nasdaq Kill Switch, which is an optional tool offered at no charge that enables Participants to establish pre-determined levels of risk exposure, and can be used to cancel all open orders. Similarly, Participants may use cancel-on-disconnect control when they experience a disruption in connection to the Exchange to immediately cancel all pending

¹⁹ Current Exchange port functionality supports cancellation rates that exceed one thousand messages per second and the Exchange's research indicates that certain Participants rely on such functionality and at times utilize such cancellation rates.

Exchange orders except for good-till-canceled orders. Finally, the proposed purging functionality will allow Participants to achieve essentially the same outcome in canceling orders as they would by utilizing the Purge Ports. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposed Purge Ports fee is reasonable because it is related to the efficiency introduced by the Purge Port functionality related to other means and services already available which are either free or already a part of a fee assessed to the Participant's for existing connectivity. Accordingly, because the proposed Purge Ports provide additional optional functionality, excessive fees would simply serve to reduce or eliminate demand for this optional product.

The Exchange also believes that offering the purging functionality and the Purge Ports at the Exchange level promotes risk management across the industry, and thereby facilitates investor protection. Some market participants, in particular the larger firms, could and do build similar risk functionality (as described above) in their trading systems that permit the flexible cancellation of orders entered on the Exchange at a high rate. Offering Exchange level protections ensures that such functionality is widely available to all firms, including smaller firms that may otherwise not be willing to incur the costs and development work necessary to support their own customized mass cancel functionality.

As noted above, the Exchange is not the first equities exchange to develop and offer dedicated Purge Ports for equities trading, and the proposed rate is the same or lower than that charged by other equities exchanges for similar functionality. Generally speaking, restricting the Exchange's ability to offer new services and charge fees for these new services discourages innovation and competition. Specifically in this case, the Exchange's inability to introduce similar services to those offered by other exchanges,

and charge reasonable and equitable fees for such services, would put the Exchange at a significant competitive disadvantage and therefore serves to restrict competition in the market – especially when other exchanges assess fees higher than those proposed by the Exchange.

The Exchange believes that the proposed Purge Port fees are equitable because the proposed Purge Ports are completely voluntary as they relate solely to optional risk management functionality.

The Exchange also believes that the proposed amendments to its fee schedule are not unfairly discriminatory because they will apply uniformly to all Participants that choose to use the optional Purge Ports. The proposed Purge Ports are completely voluntary and, as they relate solely to optional risk management functionality, no Participant is required or under any regulatory obligation to utilize them. All Participants that voluntarily select this service option will be charged the same amount for the same services. All Participants have the option to select any connectivity option, and there is no differentiation among Participants with regard to the fees charged for the services offered by the Exchange.

The Exchange believes that the proposal to waive the applicable \$300 per Purge Port, per month fees for Participants that conduct tests of their Exchange access protocols connection through the Exchange's Testing Facility to test the new Purge Ports functionality is reasonable and not unfairly discriminatory. Importantly, the Exchange believes the two month waiver of the fee will encourage testing of the new optional Purge Ports, which will allow participants to evaluate whether the new optional service is of value to them and if so will help them better implement them into their workflow. All

Participants will be notified about the availability of the new Purge Port functionality and have access to test it but will not be required to use it. Moreover, the fees for the RASH, FIX and OUCH ports will remain the same and apply to all Participants in the same manner. Based on the Exchange's experience, we anticipate that Participants will complete testing the new Purge Ports within two months from initiating such tests and thus will not incur any fees related to testing the functionality of Purge Ports.

4. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the contrary, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will enhance competition because it will enable the Exchange to innovate and offer similar equities Purge Port functionality to that offered by other equity exchanges and on options markets today. The proposed Purge Ports are completely voluntary and will be made available to all members on an equal basis at the same cost. While the Exchange believes that the proposed Purge Ports provide a valuable service, Participants can choose to purchase, or not purchase, these ports based on their own determination of the value and their business needs. No Participant is required or under any regulatory obligation to utilize Purge Ports. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is designed to offer appropriate risk management functionality to firms that trade on the Exchange without imposing an unnecessary or inappropriate burden on competition.

The Exchange is also allowing the Participants to test this new functionality for free by providing a two month waiver in the Exchange's Test Facility. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is designed to offer optional risk

management functionality to firms that trade on the Exchange without imposing an unnecessary or inappropriate burden on competition.

5. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were either solicited or received.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

7. Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii)²⁰ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder²¹ in that it effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest, and would not impose a significant burden on competition, as it would provide Purge Port functionality that is similar to that available on other equity exchanges and option exchanges, including the Exchange's affiliated equities and options markets²² The proposed Purge Ports would enable Participants to manage their risk in an additional efficient manner, which the

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

²¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

²² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Exchange believes is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Furthermore, since Purge Ports are already available on other exchanges, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would introduce any unique or novel issues not already considered by the Commission.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii)²³ requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has provided such notice.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

The proposed rule change is based on a similar proposal adopted by Nasdaq PHLX, LLC. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-97825 (June 30, 2023); 88 FR 43405 (July 7, 2023) (SR-Phlx-2023-28).

9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

Not applicable.

²³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.
5. Text of the proposed rule change

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. _____ ; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2023-041)

October __, 2023

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Establish Purge Ports for Equities Trading

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on October 10, 2023, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III, below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to establish Purge Ports for equities trading, as described below.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Website at <https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/nasdaq/rules>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange is proposing to establish a new port type, “Purge Port,” which is a function enabling Exchange Participants (the “Participants”) to cancel all open orders or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) across multiple protocols through a single cancel message.³ The Exchange also proposes to amend the Pricing Schedule in Equity 7, Section 3 to set fees for Purge Ports and to waive the fees for the Purge Ports in the Exchange’s Test Facility for the first two months a Participant uses them in the Test Facility. Finally, the Exchange proposes to make functional enhancements to its Order entry protocols to include a function enabling Participants to cancel, through a single cancel message, all open orders or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) entered through that port (the “purging functionality”). The Exchange notes that its sister exchange,

³ Purge Ports will be available for RASH, FIX and OUCH protocols.

Nasdaq PHLX, LLC, recently filed with the SEC a proposal to adopt similar functionality and pricing.⁴

A logical port represents a port established by the Exchange within the Exchange's system for trading and billing purposes. Each logical port grants a Participant the ability to accomplish a specific function, such as order entry, order cancellation, access to execution reports, and other administrative information.

The proposed Purge Ports are designed to assist Participants, including Market Makers,⁵ in the management of, and risk control over, their orders, particularly if the firm is dealing with a large number of securities. For example, if a Participant detects market indications that may influence the execution potential of their orders, the Participant may use the proposed Purge Ports to reduce uncertainty and to manage risk by purging all orders in a number of securities. This would allow the Participant to seamlessly avoid unintended executions, while continuing to evaluate the market, their positions, and their risk levels. While Purge Ports will be available to all Participants, the Exchange anticipates they will be used primarily by firms that conduct business activity that exposes them to a large amount of risk across a number of securities. The proposed purging functionality will operate similar to a Purge Port, by allowing a Participant to purge all orders or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) open on that port. The only material difference for a Participant, between relying on the purging functionality as opposed to using a Purge Port, is that Purge Port requires a Participant to send one message to accomplish desired cancellation of orders or

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-97825 (June 30, 2023); 88 FR 43405 (July 7, 2023) (SR-Phlx-2023-28).

⁵ Members seeking to become registered as an Exchange Market Maker must comply with the applicable requirements of General 3, Section 1. See Equity 2, Section 4.

a subset thereof as described above, while the purging functionality requires a Participant to send multiple messages (which could be sent simultaneously) to accomplish the same task.⁶

Participants may currently cancel individual orders through the existing functionality of the RASH Order entry protocol,⁷ FIX Order entry protocol⁸ and the OUCH Order entry protocol.⁹ In addition to the current functionality, which is being retained, the Exchange now proposes to expand the ability of Participants to cancel orders through the new purge functionality, which would enable them to cancel all open orders or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) entered through a single port; and through the proposed Purge Ports, which would enable them to cancel all open orders, or a subset of open orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol) across multiple protocols through a single cancel message.

The Exchange notes that dedicated Purge Ports are not a new functionality for equities exchanges; Nasdaq PHLX, LLC and other equity exchanges already offer similar functionality.¹⁰ The Exchange also notes that the proposed Purge Ports increase

⁶ The Exchange expects the purging functionality to remain substantially similar to Purge Ports, as described above, and would offer the purging functionality as long as it offers Purge Ports.

⁷ The RASH Order entry protocol is a proprietary protocol that allows members to enter Orders, cancel existing Orders and receive executions. RASH allows participants to use advanced functionality, including discretion, random reserve, pegging and routing.

⁸ Financial Information eXchange (FIX) is a vendor-neutral standard message protocol that defines an electronic message exchange for communicating securities transactions between two parties.

⁹ The OUCH Order entry protocol is a proprietary protocol that allows subscribers to quickly enter orders into the System and receive executions. OUCH accepts limit Orders from members, and if there are matching Orders, they will execute. Non-matching Orders are added to the Limit Order Book, a database of available limit Orders, where they are matched in price-time priority. OUCH only provides a method for members to send Orders and receive status updates on those Orders.

¹⁰ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 84405 (October 11, 2018), 83 FR 52598 (October 17, 2018)(SR-CboeEDGA-2018-016). Explaining its decision to waive the 30-day operative delay of this proposed rule change, the Commission stated that it believed that purge ports may be a helpful tool for managing the risk associated with trading equities, and that this can be important both for individual market participants and the market in general.

efficiency of already existing functionality enabling the cancellation of orders. Nasdaq operates highly performant systems with significant throughput and determinism which allows participants to enter, update and cancel orders at high rates. In that regard, Participants can cancel orders in rapid succession across their order entry ports.¹¹ In addition, the Exchange provides a similar ability to mass cancel orders through the Nasdaq Kill Switch, which is an optional tool offered at no charge that enables Participants to establish pre-determined levels of risk exposure, which can be used to cancel all open orders. Similarly, Participants may use cancel-on-disconnect control when they experience a disruption in connection to the Exchange to immediately cancel all pending Exchange orders except for good-till-canceled orders. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the purge functionality and Purge Ports provide an efficient option as an alternative to already available services and enhance the Participant's ability to manage their risk.

The Exchange proposes to provide the purging functionality without charging any additional fees. All existing ports will be enhanced with the purging functionality and will continue to be subject to the existing fee schedule without any changes.

The Exchange proposes to adopt a fee for Purge Ports of \$500 per port/per month. As stated above, the Exchange believes that Participants would benefit from a dedicated purge mechanism. Only firms that request Purge Ports would be subject to the proposed fees, and other firms can continue to operate in exactly the same manner as they do today without dedicated Purge Ports, but with the additional purging functionality.

¹¹ Current Exchange port functionality supports cancellation rates that exceed one thousand messages per second and the Exchange's research indicates that certain Participants rely on such functionality and at times utilize such cancellation rates.

The Exchange proposes to waive the applicable \$300 per Purge Port, per month fees for Participants that use their Exchange access protocols connection through the Exchange's Testing Facility to test the new Purge Ports. The fees will be waived for the first two calendar months from the date the participant first receives access to Purge Ports in the Test Facility. A Participant may choose to conduct testing for OUCH, FIX and RASH protocols simultaneously or at different times. If a Participant chooses to conduct tests for their protocols separately, the fees will be waived each time.

After the two months of service, a Participant will be expected to have fully tested the new Purge Ports and will be charged for any fees incurred for using the Exchange's Testing Facility ports thereafter.

Implementation

The Exchange will issue an Equity Trader Alert to members announcing the exact date the Exchange will implement the Purge Ports and the purging functionality, as described above.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,¹² in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹³ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. The proposal is also designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would promote just and equitable principles of trade and remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market because offering Participants a new optional service promotes choice, flexibility, efficiency, and competition. The Exchange believes the new features may enhance participants' ability to manage orders, which would, in turn, improve their risk controls to the benefit of all market participants. The Exchange believes that the purging functionality and the Purge Ports would foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities because designating Purge Ports for purge messages may encourage better use of such ports. This may, concurrent with the ports that carry quote and other information necessary for market making activities, enable more efficient, as well as fair and reasonable, use of Market Makers' resources. Although dedicated Purge Ports are a new functionality for the Exchange,¹⁴ similar connectivity and functionality is offered by options exchanges, including the Exchange's own affiliated equities and options exchanges, and other equities exchanges.¹⁵ The Exchange believes that proper risk management, including the ability to efficiently cancel multiple orders quickly when necessary, is similarly valuable to firms that trade in the equities market, including Market Makers that have heightened quoting obligations that are not applicable to other market participants.

¹⁴ See footnote 6, above.

¹⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 77613 (April 13, 2016), 81 FR 23023 (April 19, 2016). See also Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 79956 (February 3, 2017), 82 FR 10102 (February 9, 2017) (SR-BatsBZX-2017-05); 79957 (February 3, 2017), 82 FR 10070 (February 9, 2017) (SR-BatsEDGX-2017-07); 83201 (May 9, 2018), 83 FR 22546 (May 15, 2018) (SR-C2-2018-006).

The proposed rule change will not relieve Market Makers of their quoting obligations or firm quote obligations under Regulation NMS Rule 602.¹⁶ Specifically, any interest that is executable against a Participant's or Market Maker's quotes and orders that is received by the Exchange prior to the time of the removal of orders request will automatically execute. Market Makers that purge their orders will not be relieved of the obligation to provide continuous two-sided quotes on a daily basis, nor will it prohibit the Exchange from taking disciplinary action against a Market Maker for failing to meet their continuous quoting obligation each trading day.¹⁷

Dedicated Purge Ports, which were originally introduced for options trading, subsequently became a feature in the equities market. The Exchange, therefore, is not the first equities exchange to offer this functionality to Participants and to charge associated fees.¹⁸

The Exchange believes the proposed fee for Purge Ports is reasonable. The Exchange currently charges \$400 per port/per month for logical ports. The Exchange believes it is reasonable to charge \$500 per month for the proposed Purge Ports, which is \$100 more than the fee for a logical port, as such ports represent targeted enhancement of technology and were specially developed to allow for the sending of a single message to cancel multiple orders, thereby assisting firms in effectively managing risk. Nasdaq also believes that a Participant that chooses to utilize a Purge Port may, in the future, reduce their need for additional logical ports by consolidating cancel messages to the Purge Port

¹⁶ 17 CFR 242.602.

¹⁷ See Equity 2, Section 5.

¹⁸ Cboe charges \$650 per port/per month for Purge Ports that have substantially similar functionality. This fee is also \$100 more than the fee for a logical port on its exchange. See, Cboe EDGA U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedule.

and thus freeing up some capacity of the existing logical ports and, therefore, allowing for increased message traffic without paying for additional logical ports. In addition, the proposed purging functionality will allow Participants to achieve essentially the same outcome without paying for a dedicated Purge Port. Purge Ports provide the ability to cancel multiple orders across multiple ports with less messaging from the firms using the ports and therefore may create efficiencies for firms and provide a more economical solution to their risk management needs. In addition, Purge Port requests may cancel orders submitted over numerous ports and contain added functionality to purge only a subset of these orders (per MPID, buy or sell side of the order, or ticker symbol). Effective risk management is important both for individual market participants that choose to utilize risk features provided by the Exchange, as well as for the market in general. As a result, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate to charge fees for such functionality as doing so aids in the maintenance of a fair and orderly market.

The Exchange also believes that its ability to set fees for Purge Ports is subject to significant substitution-based forces because Participants are able to rely on currently available services both free and those they receive when using existing trading protocols, which will include the proposed purging functionality. If the value of the efficiency introduced through the Purge Port functionality is not worth the proposed fees, Participants will simply continue to rely on the existing functionality and the proposed purging functionality and not pay for Purge Ports. In that regard, Participants already can cancel orders individually and by utilizing Nasdaq protocols that allow them to develop

proprietary systems that can send cancel messages at a high rate.¹⁹ In addition, the Exchange already provides similar ability to mass cancel orders through the Nasdaq Kill Switch, which is an optional tool offered at no charge that enables Participants to establish pre-determined levels of risk exposure, and can be used to cancel all open orders. Similarly, Participants may use cancel-on-disconnect control when they experience a disruption in connection to the Exchange to immediately cancel all pending Exchange orders except for good-till-canceled orders. Finally, the proposed purging functionality will allow Participants to achieve essentially the same outcome in canceling orders as they would by utilizing the Purge Ports. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposed Purge Ports fee is reasonable because it is related to the efficiency introduced by the Purge Port functionality related to other means and services already available which are either free or already a part of a fee assessed to the Participant's for existing connectivity. Accordingly, because the proposed Purge Ports provide additional optional functionality, excessive fees would simply serve to reduce or eliminate demand for this optional product.

The Exchange also believes that offering the purging functionality and the Purge Ports at the Exchange level promotes risk management across the industry, and thereby facilitates investor protection. Some market participants, in particular the larger firms, could and do build similar risk functionality (as described above) in their trading systems that permit the flexible cancellation of orders entered on the Exchange at a high rate. Offering Exchange level protections ensures that such functionality is widely available to

¹⁹ Current Exchange port functionality supports cancellation rates that exceed one thousand messages per second and the Exchange's research indicates that certain Participants rely on such functionality and at times utilize such cancellation rates.

all firms, including smaller firms that may otherwise not be willing to incur the costs and development work necessary to support their own customized mass cancel functionality.

As noted above, the Exchange is not the first equities exchange to develop and offer dedicated Purge Ports for equities trading, and the proposed rate is the same or lower than that charged by other equities exchanges for similar functionality. Generally speaking, restricting the Exchange's ability to offer new services and charge fees for these new services discourages innovation and competition. Specifically in this case, the Exchange's inability to introduce similar services to those offered by other exchanges, and charge reasonable and equitable fees for such services, would put the Exchange at a significant competitive disadvantage and therefore serves to restrict competition in the market – especially when other exchanges assess fees higher than those proposed by the Exchange.

The Exchange believes that the proposed Purge Port fees are equitable because the proposed Purge Ports are completely voluntary as they relate solely to optional risk management functionality.

The Exchange also believes that the proposed amendments to its fee schedule are not unfairly discriminatory because they will apply uniformly to all Participants that choose to use the optional Purge Ports. The proposed Purge Ports are completely voluntary and, as they relate solely to optional risk management functionality, no Participant is required or under any regulatory obligation to utilize them. All Participants that voluntarily select this service option will be charged the same amount for the same services. All Participants have the option to select any connectivity option, and there is

no differentiation among Participants with regard to the fees charged for the services offered by the Exchange.

The Exchange believes that the proposal to waive the applicable \$300 per Purge Port, per month fees for Participants that conduct tests of their Exchange access protocols connection through the Exchange's Testing Facility to test the new Purge Ports functionality is reasonable and not unfairly discriminatory. Importantly, the Exchange believes the two month waiver of the fee will encourage testing of the new optional Purge Ports, which will allow participants to evaluate whether the new optional service is of value to them and if so will help them better implement them into their workflow. All Participants will be notified about the availability of the new Purge Port functionality and have access to test it but will not be required to use it. Moreover, the fees for the RASH, FIX and OUCH ports will remain the same and apply to all Participants in the same manner. Based on the Exchange's experience, we anticipate that Participants will complete testing the new Purge Ports within two months from initiating such tests and thus will not incur any fees related to testing the functionality of Purge Ports.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the contrary, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will enhance competition because it will enable the Exchange to innovate and offer similar equities Purge Port functionality to that offered by other equity exchanges and on options markets today. The proposed Purge Ports are completely voluntary and will be made available to all members on an equal basis at the same cost. While the Exchange believes that the proposed Purge Ports provide a valuable service, Participants can choose to purchase, or

not purchase, these ports based on their own determination of the value and their business needs. No Participant is required or under any regulatory obligation to utilize Purge Ports. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is designed to offer appropriate risk management functionality to firms that trade on the Exchange without imposing an unnecessary or inappropriate burden on competition.

The Exchange is also allowing the Participants to test this new functionality for free by providing a two month waiver in the Exchange's Test Facility. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is designed to offer optional risk management functionality to firms that trade on the Exchange without imposing an unnecessary or inappropriate burden on competition.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were either solicited or received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act²⁰ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.²¹

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

²¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-NASDAQ-2023-041 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR-NASDAQ-2023-041. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent

amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-NASDAQ-2023-041 and should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 21 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²²

Sherry R. Haywood,
Assistant Secretary.

²² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is underlined.

THE NASDAQ STOCK MARKET LLC RULES

* * * * *

Equity 7 Pricing Schedule

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Section 115. Ports and Services†

The charges under this section are assessed by Nasdaq for connectivity to services and the following systems operated by Nasdaq or FINRA: the Nasdaq Market Center, FINRA Trade Reporting and Compliance Engine (TRACE), the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility, and the FINRA OTC Reporting Facility (ORF). The following fees are not applicable to The Nasdaq Options Market LLC. For related options fees for Ports and other Services refer to Options 7, Section 3 of the Options Rules.

(a) Nasdaq Information Exchange (QIX)

Nasdaq trading port (plus optional proprietary quote information port)	No charge
Disaster recovery port	No charge

(b) Financial Information Exchange (FIX)

Ports	Price
FIX Trading Port (FIX, FIX Lite (FLITE))	\$575/port/month
<u>OUCH Purge Port</u>	<u>\$500/port/month</u> ¹
<u>FIX Purge Port</u>	<u>\$500/port/month</u>
<u>RASH Purge Port</u>	<u>\$500/port/month</u>

¹Temporary 30-Day Fee Waiver for OUCH 5.0 NTF Ports. The Exchange shall offer subscribers a 30-day waiver of the \$300 NTF fee in this paragraph (d)(1)(B) of Section 130 for up to five newly added OUCH NTF ports with the updated version of the OUCH Order entry protocol, referred to as "OUCH 5.0." This fee waiver shall be offered for a three-month period, beginning on a date to be specified by the Exchange in an Equity Trader Alert.

* * * * *

Section 130. Other Services

(a) – (c) No change.

(d) Nasdaq Testing Facilities

Nasdaq operates two test environments. One is located in Ashburn, Virginia and the other in Carteret, New Jersey. Unless otherwise noted, reference to the "Nasdaq Testing Facility" or "NTF" applies to both environments.

(1) The following fees are assessed for access to the Nasdaq Testing Facility:

(A) No change

(B) Subscribers that conduct tests of all Nasdaq access protocol connections not included in paragraph (A) above or of market data vendor feeds through the Nasdaq Testing Facility shall pay \$300 per port, per month.

*Waived for OUCH, FIX and RASH Purge Ports for the first two calendar months from the start date of the Test Facility port.

* * * * *